

THE A.P.R.O. BULLETIN

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TUCSON, ARIZONA — SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 1971

UFO ACTIVITY IN YUGOSLAVIA

UFO Reported in Ceylon

APRO is indebted to Field Investigator Mudiyansele D. Samarakoon for information on this case. A personal investigation by an APRO member has not been, and probably will not be possible, but the

reported incidents are being presented here for the record.

The UFO was reported by dozens of persons in the Hewaheta tea-growing district, about 120 miles from Colombo, the capital of Ceylon, on the night of July 17, 1971. Journalist Rex de Silva visited the area and spoke with over 50 witnesses to the phenomenon; it is from his interviews that the information below is compiled.

At 10.45 p.m. local time, Mr. Parl Abeywickrema, a senior tea planter and superintendent at the Rookwood Estate at Hewaheta, was returning home from Pattiagama with his two assistant superintendents, Oswin de Alwis and Nimal Dunuwille and the driver, Sirisena Wijesinghe. Mr. Abeywickrema first observed a "bright circular object a little bigger than the full moon above the rocky horizon," and pointed it out to the other three witnesses. At the time, they were driving a Morris station wagon through the Hope Estate, at 6,000 feet above sea level.

While they proceeded towards the Rookwood Estate, they observed the object moving towards them and Mr. Abeywickrema ordered the driver to stop. The witnesses, who later confessed they were "speechless with fear," watched the object from a distance of nearly one quarter mile as it remained motionless at an altitude of about 1,000 feet. They described the object as circular shaped, with two "side wings." The witnesses then claim that the object, after about 10 minutes of observation, flew towards them at high speed and stopped at a distance of 300 feet, and descended to 100 feet above the ground.

The driver reacted in a terrified manner and jumped in the station wagon to hide, releasing the hand-brake by accident. The vehicle began to move backwards on the

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Three Bizarre New Cases

The Brazilian press featured the alleged details of two "kidnap" cases involving UFOs in late September. Field Investigator Mrs. Irene Granchi forwarded translations of these news cuttings but in exploring the incidents more thoroughly she learned that the original news stories were highly erroneous, even to the spelling of the name of one of the principals. We make note of this because it is felt that we all should be periodically reminded that news stories are frequently prone to distortion.

At this writing arrangements are being made to bring one of the principals in these cases, one Paolo Caetano Silveira, to Rio de Janeiro for questioning under hypnosis. If further details are elicited in this manner, they will be presented in a future issue.

The following details were obtained by Mrs. Granchi in a personal interview with Dr. Munir Bussade, the Itaperuna physician who attended Mr. Silveira within two hours after his experience. The cases to date:

At 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 22nd, Paolo Caetano Silveira, 27, a typewriter mechanic at Itaperuna, state of Rio de Janeiro, was driving home from Tombos when he noticed a light which appeared to be following his car (an old Vemaguet). He stopped at a police station where he reported the sighting. The police did not appear disposed to investigate, but suggested that he stay overnight and continue his journey the next morning. Silveira, however, was eager to get home to his family so he continued on his way.

At 7:40 p.m., at a point near Itaperuna called Serraria, he saw the (or a similar) light again. It came to a stop in front of his car and its bluish rays turned to white. His car rolled to a halt.

At that point, two bright beams were focused on him and the two car doors popped open with no help from him.

Silveira said the two beams of light drug him out of the car toward the large light. He then became aware of three objects, man-shaped and about 50 centimeters (about 20 inches) tall, which

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Mr. Milos Krmelj, APRO member in Yugoslavia has informed Headquarters that Yugoslavia experienced considerable UFO activity starting in early October.

On the 20th of September, between 8:13 and 8:21 a.m., a simultaneous sighting of a triangular-shaped metallic-appearing object estimated to be at 33,000 feet was made by the crews of an Avio Genexa TU-134 and a McDonnell-Douglas DC-9 about 40 miles southwest of Lanejevo, Yugoslavia. Captain Boris Lupancic, captain of the DC-9, heard the following query via radio from the captain of the TU-134:

"Did you see what I saw? It is flying at a very high altitude above us." Lupancic replied "Now I see something; what could it be?"

While the two captains conversed, questions were put to them from flight control at the airport in Zagreb, inquiring about the distance of the object from the two planes. Lupancic replied that the object was "not too far away, but very high". Then the pilot of the TU-134 described the object as being white in color, metallic-appearing and triangular in shape. He said the object was above his plane but at high altitude.

The conversation ended there and the two planes went on their way. It is not known if the object had been picked up on radar at Zagreb.

On the 7th of October newspaper accounts described sightings "during the past few days", one of which involved an object which flew from north to south over Rula. Residents of Reka said they watched a low-flying object which changed colors. Dr. Ivan Korulic spotted a "flying star" with his naked eye which, through a telescope, magnified a hundred times, appeared triangular in shape. Another sighting at Ljubljana was of an object flying into the northeast which made a sharp turn and flew out of sight into the southeast.

On Friday, October 8th, the control tower at the Reka airport reported that two unknowns were spotted at 4:55 p.m. at 140 degrees and 4-5 kilometers altitude. Flight control at Krk airport later reported that they had also observed two UFOs south of the island. At 6:20 p.m. on the same date the pilot of a YAT

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APRO UFO Symposium

Although this *Bulletin* may not reach some readers before the APRO UFO Symposium (to be held on November 22nd and 23rd at The University of Arizona), the following modifications are being announced: The Symposium will commence at 9.00 a.m. November 22nd not 10.00 a.m. as originally planned. At that time, after Dr. Hynek's introductory presentation, the Biological Sciences Panel will convene, with an initial paper by Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, and will terminate at 12.30 p.m. After a 1 hour lunch period, the Social Sciences Panel will convene at 1.30 p.m., terminating at 5.00 p.m. The Physical Sciences Panel will convene at 10.00 a.m. on the second day, November 23rd, and will terminate at 5.00 p.m. on the same day.

The May-June and July-August *Bulletins* carried full listings of the speakers and titles of papers (a printing error accidentally omitted Dr. Kenneth Hessel in the July-August issue). Panel discussions and question and answer sessions with public participation will take place after the presentation of papers. The Symposium, which is being co-sponsored by The University of Arizona Student Chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), will be held at the Gallagher Theatre in the Student Union building. There will be no admission charge as the Symposium is intended strictly as an educational event.

Eastern UFO Symposium Proceedings

APRO urges all members to obtain the *Proceedings of the Eastern UFO Symposium* (held at Baltimore, Maryland on January 23rd, 1971), a new publication brought out by APRO and available at \$3.00 postpaid in the U.S., Canada and Mexico (\$3.50 all other countries). Please make checks payable to APRO.

Participants in the Symposium were Dr. J. Allen Hynek, astronomer, Mrs. Coral Lorenzen, APRO Secretary, Mr. Thomas Olsen, nuclear engineer, Professor Theodore Spickler, physicist, and Dr. Berthold Schwarz, psychiatrist. The *Proceedings* include both the presented papers and the subsequent panel discussions.

UFO Symposium in Australia

The Australia New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS) held a one day symposium on UFOs at the University of Adelaide on October 30, 1971.

In a letter from ANZAAS in early October, APRO was informed that the symposium "will be relatively low-key as it is the first time that an attempt has been made in Australia to bridge the gap between scientific and public attitudes to the UFO problem. Scientific and public reactions to the symposium may become a guide to further developments. . . ."

Although APRO has not yet received details of the symposium at press time, a run-down of the speakers and topics can be presented: Dr. B. H. Horton, convenor of the symposium, was to introduce the subject, followed by Dr. Michael J. Duggin, who was to make a "statement" on the problem. Following the reading of a Department of Air UFO paper and another presentation by Dr. Duggin, Dr. P. Delin was to have discussed the polarization of belief/disbelief and to have appealed to the scientific community to examine the data available. Dr. L. Mander was to have discussed possible extraterrestrial life forms and Dr. D. G. McCoy was to deal with man's own limitations in space exploration. Finally, Dr. D. Herbison-Evans was to discuss means of obtaining instrumental data on UFOs.

The symposium appears to have been comprehensive and, above all, objective. Details will be published in the next *Bulletin*.

Recent Visitors

Among recent out-of-State visitors to APRO was Field Investigator David Jacobs, a graduate student in history at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Mr. Jacobs, who spent 10 days at APRO headquarters doing research on the history of UFO sightings in the United States, particularly the old "airship" reports of the late 19th century, will eventually publish his UFO thesis. Mr. Jacobs is interested in contacting persons who may have "airship" reports still unknown to him.

Another visitor was Dr. Michael J. Duggin, Senior Research Scientist with Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization's Physics Division. Dr. Duggin has a personal interest in UFO phenomena and hopes to contribute to research in physical areas. He was one of the speakers at the Australia New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science UFO Symposium held in Adelaide on October 30, 1971 (see article elsewhere in this *Bulletin*).

Mr. Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist and APRO Field Investigator also visited APRO during a tour through the southwest. Ideas and opinions on the current and future status of UFO research were discussed.

Activity

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Convair 440 on a flight from Pulj to Zagreb had also observed an unknown object. He first spotted the UFO when he made his takeoff from the Pulj airport. The object was proceeding toward Pulj.

Another object was tracked by radar as it flew from Lenj toward Knin. The estimated speed was 750 kilometers per hour. The pilot of the YAT Convair said that the object he observed was first romboidal in shape and it was on a heading of 120 degrees and he was unable to estimate its speed.

Radar at Ljubljana airport reported no UFOs but the radar is turned on only during daylight hours, so that is understandable.

On October 9 a round object and a triangular one were seen by residents of Zagecar in Srhjo, Yugoslavia, between the hours of 5 and 6 p.m.

Another airliner sighting took place on the 12th of October. An American airline pilot enroute across Yugoslavia to London reported spotting a luminous body approximately 74 kilometers south-east of Zagreb. The altitude, he said, was approximately 11,000 meters and the object was round and looked like a meteorological balloon reflecting the sun's rays. Shortly after his report a Boeing 727 Lufthansa airliner was enroute from Frankfurt, Germany to Athens when the pilot reported observing a silver-colored object which was flying at approximately 1,000 kilometers per hour. A check with the closest meteorological station revealed that a balloon had been launched but that it was impossible that the object could have been a balloon because it was flying into the wind. This UFO was tracked for a half an hour by radar at the Zagreb airport. Flight control at Belgrade announced that they had received reports from both foreign and Yugoslavian pilots.

On the 16th of October newspapers reported the fall of "a system of instruments" in the vicinity of a Bosna village. The instruments, including an antenna-like affair, were boxed up and taken by the Air Force. Although the date of the fall was not elucidated, the newspapers said that experts with the Yugoslavian Air Force were still at a loss to identify them. There was considerable speculation, however, that they might have been an instrument package from a research or "spy" balloon. In an interview with the newspaper "Vecernje Novosti", Air Force General Roglic said: "it will be dangerous to tell the public of the origin of the UFOs".

The same general pattern of explaining away seems to have been adopted by Yugoslavian officials after the spate of sightings over that country in early October, as has been utilized in other

nations in the past. Any further information forthcoming will be published in future *Bulletins*.

Bizarre

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moved toward him. (At no time does Silveira refer to these objects as beings). They moved mechanically, holding their "arms" at right angles to their "bodies".

The objects did not touch Silveira — rather, the beams of light drew him to the large light, his legs numbed. He did not see the shape of the large light because of its brightness.

Once inside the UFO Silveira says, he saw three beings, all of whom were dressed the same; in blue "siren suits" with a smooth covering on their heads which reminded him of Roman helmets. Their hands and faces were gray but he could discern no features. The hands, he said, appeared to be transparent.

While in the UFO, Silveira noted, the beings moved around him and communicated among themselves and he could not understand them. A sound like a turbine engine was heard all the while that he was aboard the object.

The next thing he knew, he was lying on the ground a few meters from his car and Dr. Cirley Coutinho Crespo was talking to him. Dr. Crespo sent for help and Silveira was taken into Itaperuna where Dr. Bussade took over.

Dr. Bussade, who is Silveira's physician and knows him personally, made the following observations: Silveira was highly excited but his blood pressure was normal; his face was very red; his eyes were bloodshot and he had scratches on his hands and arms which terminated at the elbows. His clothing was torn and dirty, apparently from having been dragged along the ground. Dr. Bussade assures us that Silveira *had not* been drinking.

Silveira's descriptions indicate that he might have been in a somnambulist state for some of what he remembers is disjointed and not too clear. For instance:

The inside of the UFO was very large and white, he said. The "beings" inside were about 6 in number — "there were a lot of little faces" everywhere, he said. They were about 20 inches tall. He noticed some "buttons" in the ship, he said, but does not relate them to anything such as a control board.

Since the experience Silveira has complained of loss of appetite and a smarting sensation in his eyes. His wristwatch, which customarily loses about four minutes a week, was 15 minutes slow when he was examined by Dr. Bussade at the SAMDU First Aid Station in Itaperuna.

Our second case involves Benedito Miranda, 24, a truck driver from Cataguzes. At 2 a.m. on the morning of Saturday, September 25, Miranda claimed he was on his way home to Cataguzes from Itaperuna and was crossing the Carangola River bridge when he was drawn from his car by a beam of light and was held suspended at 50 to 100 meters (200-400 feet) above the ground. His legs were numb, he said, and he felt as though he was on a platform of some kind. He swayed in the air, he said, and tried to call for help but his voice failed him.

At this point a car was seen coming down the road and Miranda was gently lowered to the ground. He seemed unhurt, and got into his truck and drove home.

To our knowledge at this time, the Silveira incident had not been publicized by the time Miranda had his experience and it is not likely that Miranda had any knowledge of it.

However, shortly after he made his report, Miranda retracted his statement and has since disappeared. His sister is very concerned about him and has not been able to get a lead on his whereabouts.

The foregoing information is considered to be fairly accurate. However, the following is taken from a press cutting and is currently under investigation:

Aziz Cury Junior, a gas station owner at Anapolis claims that while driving home from Brazilia at 1:40 a.m. on Sunday, October 3 with his wife Marina, he encountered a huge ball of light which had a strange effect on his car.

Cury said that they were nearing Anapolis when he noticed the engine of his car was making a strange noise, and then it began to speed up to 100 miles per hour, without his help. At the same time, he said, the ball of light passed in front of them about a thousand feet ahead of the car. The light, which was shaped somewhat like a Mexican sombrero (hat) and silent, repeatedly crossed the road in front of him and each time it did so his car accelerated.

When Cury reached a Highway Patrol station where he reported the incident, the object had disappeared. Cury is considered to be honest and reliable and enjoys a good reputation. He told newsmen that he doesn't intend to travel at night anymore because "no one sees UFOs by day". When describing the experience Cury shows noticeable nervousness and trembling.

The editor would like to bring to the attention of the reader that "little creatures" of similar size and appearance of those in the Silveira incident have been seen in conjunction with UFOs in the past.

Visitors

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Mrs. Betty Hill, subject of John Fuller's book *The Interrupted Journey*, who had been in Los Angeles on September 29th to appear on the Steve Allen television show, stopped in Tucson on her return to New Hampshire and was the house guest of the Lorenzens for two days. Mrs. Hill, who had met Mrs. Lorenzen in January 1971 at the Eastern UFO Symposium, gave the Lorenzens many insights into her experience during her stay.

Earthquake Lights and Ball Lightning Research

by Dr. John S. Derr

Dr. Derr, APRO Consultant in Space Seismology, wrote this article after returning from a recent geophysics conference in the Soviet Union.

The problem of earthquake lights has been a dark area of seismology since the early 1930's, when the Japanese seismologist Terada reported on luminous phenomena associated with several large earthquakes in Japan. Few scientists were willing to tackle the problem because, like UFO sightings, there were only reports of personal observations and no "hard data" which could be subjected to scientific analysis.

Recently, however, this picture has changed. Early in August, 1971, Dr. David Finkelstein of Yeshiva University reported on studies with Dr. James Powell of Brookhaven National Laboratory, of the feasibility of generating the required electric field in rocks, both before and during earthquakes. The paper was presented at the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) meeting in Moscow, USSR, in a session devoted to earthquake prediction. This work is a continuation of previous studies of ball lightning, published in the *American Scientist*, Vol. 58, No. 3, May-June, 1970, pp. 262-280.

Dr. Finkelstein gave sound physical arguments to show that these luminous phenomena could be caused by ground-to-ground electric discharges. Some evidence exists to suggest that the stress accumulated in rocks over a period of years may begin to be released very slowly several days before a large quake. This straining could lead to generation of a high seismo-electric potential, and the resultant discharges might be seen several hours before the actual fault break of the major earthquake. One important implication of this theory is that the potential

should be measurable, and would give a few hours or more warning before a major earthquake.

Most seismologists hearing the paper were of the opinion that enough evidence exists to warrant further investigations, and that the subject should no longer be swept under the rug. There was some question as to whether rock formations are dry enough to have the required high resistivity. At the moment, however, there is no reason to suspect UFOs as the cause of earthquake lights, and if this theory of seismo-electric potential proves to be correct, earthquake lights may be explained as a natural phenomenon.

Ceylon

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slope towards a 4,000 foot precipice. However, the other witnesses were able to stop the vehicle.

The object remained motionless for several more minutes and then flew towards the southwest at an angle of 45 degrees. Mr. Abeywickrema claims that at 2 a.m. on July 18, about three hours later, he saw two similar objects, both football shaped, crossing the sky at great distance. The driver Wijesinghe also claims that at 3 a.m. the next morning, he rose to see what his dogs were barking about and saw the same object in the sky.

The witnesses, according to the report, were able to observe the UFO in some detail during the close-up observation. They described it as a round object, about 25 feet in diameter with two "tapering wings" on either side. The object appeared to have a "fuselage" shaped like a "hippy peace symbol which was illuminated and cast a fluorescent yellow glow." The wings were illuminated also, but not as bright as the "fuselage." No sound was heard coming from the object during the entire observation, and no movement inside the object could be discerned.

Moments before the object's sudden departure, the witnesses claim that the two small wings were drawn inside the main body and the object was football-shaped when it flew off. Three red lights were observed blinking under the "fuselage" — like conventional aircraft lights. Another observation was that the "fuselage" dimmed when the object hovered near them, leaving only the wings lighted, but the "fuselage" lighted "like a ball of fire" when the object left.

On the same night (July 17), Mr. A. E. Perera, a junior assistant factory officer, was walking towards his boss' quarters three miles from the Hope Estate sighting. As he approached the quarters, he observed a "very strange object in the sky." He called his boss, Mr. P.T.H. Rodrigo and both watched the phenomenon for about 20 minutes, during which

it was reported to have moved in a pendulum motion, sometimes fast and sometimes slow. The same witnesses claimed that all the workers on the night shift of the tea factory saw the object at about 2:00 a.m. on the 18th (the same time that Mr. Abeywickrema claims he saw two more UFOs). Journalist de Silva spoke to many of the workers, who had surmised that the object was "a demon in disguise."

A Mr. Ramasamy, a night watchman, claims he saw the object at least three times between 10.00 p.m., July 17, and 2.00 a.m. on July 18. Together with 6 other household witnesses, Mr. Karupan, leader of Ceylon Workers Congress Trade Union at one of the Hewaheta estates, saw a "luminous ball-like object descend" at about 10.30 p.m., July 17. Another witness to the descent of a luminous object was Rajaratnam Vedanayagam, a trainee tea maker at the Rookwood Estate, who first thought it was a helicopter.

Most of these witnesses, and many others interviewed by Mr. de Silva, reported their observations without knowledge of the observations of others. Mr. de Silva seems to have conducted an impressive investigation into these sightings which, if authentic, appear to be some of the best on record for 1971.

UFOs and the Bible:

A Review of the Literature

by Dr. Robert S. Ellwood

Dr. Ellwood is an Associate Professor of Religion at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, and is APRO Consultant in Religion.

For nearly twenty-five years now, books of all sorts have appeared on the UFO problem. A certain category of them have attempted to isolate UFO-type objects and the works of spacemen in man's ancient religions, mythologies, and symbols. As might be expected since most of the books have been written in the West, more emphasis in this connection has been placed on the Christian Bible than any other source. In order to get some idea of the manner of books which these studies have produced, I have examined a number of them: Adrian V. Clark, *Cosmic Mysteries of the Universe* (West Nyack, N.Y., 1968); Erich von Daniken, *Chariots of the Gods?* (New York, 1970) and *Gods from Outer Space* (New York, 1970); John W. Dean, *Flying Saucers and the Scriptures* (New York, 1964); Barry H. Downing, *The Bible and Flying Saucers* (New York, 1968); R. L. Dione, *God Drives a Flying Saucer* (New York, 1969); Ulysee Douglas, *The Phenomenon* (See Bible—Page Five)

Bible

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nomena of Flying Saucers and Spatial People (New York, 1969); W. R. Drake, *Gods or Spacemen?* (Amherst, Wisconsin, 1964) and *Spacemen in the Ancient East* (London, n.d.); M. K. Jessup, *UFO and the Bible* (New York, 1956); R. Cedric Leonard, *Flying Saucers, Ancient Writings and the Bible* (New York, 1969); Desmond Leslie and George Adamski, *Flying Saucers Have Landed* (New York, 1953); Eric Norman, *Gods, Demons, and UFOs* (New York, 1970); Paul Thomas, *Flying Saucers Through the Ages* (London, 1965); Brinsley Le Poer Trench, *The Sky People* (London, 1960).

I cannot claim to have read all of these works, despite their intriguing titles. Frankly, the general level of scholarship is so low, and of pretentious but turgid writing so high, I do not see how any balanced person with equal access to, say, P. G. Wodehouse, could do so. The quality of most of these books does differ within a low range, and the patient reader is very occasionally rewarded in the best with a mildly thought-provoking insight. But my first reaction after reading as much as I could take of the material was to feel I must decline the piece on them Richard Greenwell confidently asked me to do. My general impression was of a hopeless mass of woolly theories and garbled facts by authors obviously innocent of most of what is known of the language and cultural background of the ancient books, and of the canons of rational thinking. Although quotations from sources arcane of the general public, such as the *Mahabharata* and the *Book of Enoch*, may appear at first glance impressive, a little comparison indicates that our writers mostly borrow from each other. Moreover, the translations and secondary sources they employ tend to be very dated and not the best. Desmond Leslie, a wide-ranging researcher, of "occultist" bent, seems to have accumulated most of the stock citations which later authors have picked up. Leslie, however, weakens the confidence one might have in some of his interesting cases by setting it alongside dilations on Theosophical pseudo-sources like the "Book of Dzryan."

I felt at first that I could take one of two courses in response to this material. I could exhaustively go through all the thousands of pages before me, discussing all the apparent errors of faulty research, interpretation, and logic. Or, I could ignore the books. I had not the time nor motivation for the former Augean task, nor in every case the credentials. I was inclined to set the paper aside. The problem is that weak scholarship is really more difficult to refute than good, and the job more thankless, for poor scholars

are usually harder to convince in their follies. Every teacher knows it takes more work to correct a bad paper than a good one. Our writers, like sloppy students, confuse names (like calling the last Book of the Bible "Revelations" rather than "Revelation"), use inadequate documentation, show no critical control of sources, make no linguistic analysis of terms, show no background sophistication in understanding the role of symbols like wheel and sun in a Bible allusion or a culture under discussion. The critic would have not only to do all this for them, but also explain what satisfactory methodology is.

I am not about to do this. Therefore, if any reader wants to know why I hold the books are mostly nonsense on the historical and factual level, his curiosity will have to remain unsatisfied. If he feels I am retreating behind academic snobbery, sorry about that! If anyone wants to believe that every mention of a cloud in the Bible is a "code" for a UFO, or that because Jesus said, "I am the bright and morning star," he must have been a Master come from Venus, I will not argue. For examples of demolishing analysis applied to a few stock cases allegedly from ancient myth and history used by writers of the sort under discussion, see the *Condon Report*, pp. 493-501. Of course, the fact that most people in any field have better things to do than refute at length every pretentious but careless privately-printed presentation that comes along is what leads those who write such things to claim there is a "conspiracy of silence" against them by dogmatic "orthodox" science or scholarship.

Next, however, I considered another tack I could take in trying to understand these books. I could endeavor not to look at the details of the arguments, but to strive to understand the passions, and the worldview, of people for whom they are lively and important. I was convinced, and still am, that the Bible and the UFO problem are both important, but that the former has no more to do with the latter than it does with the scientific study of stellar atmospheres. But one can ask the significant question: Why is it important to some people to see UFOs in the Bible and in ancient myths and symbols around the world? In trying to answer this query, I looked at the books in a new light: for their dominant unspoken assumptions and for the furniture of their authors' cosmos. This is what I found:

1. Very important to the writers is the matter of the confrontation of science and religion. For them the terms boil down to this: "science" means the appalling vastness of the modern universe, the prestige of technology, and the discrediting of pre-scientific religious

concepts; "religion" means the authority of the Bible and a nagging idea that somehow the "ancients" must have known something too. They resolve the confrontation not in the usual way, that science gives us facts and religion gives us humanistically meaningful "symbols" and "values," but in another way. The Bible is literally true, the old myths tell things that really happened, but its meaning could not have been comprehended until the technological age, with its awareness of the universe of modern astronomy and of space-flight. The angels and saviours of old were really extra-terrestrial astronauts!

2. Hence, in a modern world which too often seems given over to Blake's deadly "number, weight, and measure," if not worse horrors, these writers find in the UFOs "technological angels", in Jung's term: envoys of cosmic life and wonder and marvel and help on a scale equal to the great religious visions of the past — which is proved by the fact that they are what really lay behind the religions too! They are people desperate in quest of that noblest and rarest of human boons, an experience of wonder, and when the UFOs bestow it, they cannot but believe the Ultimate must lie encapsulated in them. Technological and scientific awe becomes religious awe, the UFO becomes the numinous; and then by a natural conflation past religion becomes the UFO.

The process is splendidly illustrated in Barry Downing's book. I hasten to say that, while I do not find it really convincing, this book is head and shoulders above the others named. The writer has a good modern theological education, and a deep and intelligent concern over the plight of religion in today's world. He reviews with understanding the problem modern scientifically-educated man has in believing religious notions, such as angelic visitations, miracles, and the ascension of Jesus, described in the Bible with the perspective of a pre-scientific worldview. He talks of how theologians like Bultmann, Bishops Robinson and Pike, and the "Death of God" school have sincerely tried to overcome the gap by setting aside all that is incredible today and leaving only the moral or existential "core" of religion. Many, including myself, can sympathize with Downing's conundrum: he is not prepared to reject or compartmentalize out science in the manner of the Fundamentalists, but he is equally distressed at the drab faith left by the "demythologizers," whose religion seems to be decapitated of all sense of transcendence and wonder. His solution is to bring the UFO to the rescue. The major events of the Bible, from the Exodus to the Ascension, really hap-

(See Bible—Page Six)

Bible

(Continued from Page Five)

pened, but were accomplished by vastly superior Guardians operating with UFOs. Downing is refreshingly modest in his argument; he only "about 80 percent" believes that the parting of the Red Sea waters was accomplished by some sort of UFO.

3. Finally, in this same vein, the UFO-Bible-myth alignment becomes for our writers a key to understanding personal experience, whether he is an initiated "contactee" or just a troubled religious seeker. The problem with being human is that sometimes we feel an inner expansive joy, godlike and more piercing than all grief, and sometimes we feel like klutzes beyond hope, stupid, lost, hurting, the eternal fire banked by pounds of clay. Interpreting the existence of these two "persons" within the same body and soul has been the root problem of religious teaching. In some way, metaphysical or biological or both, mankind must have two origins, earth and starry heaven.

The UFO theologies are mostly efforts to create new myths, in the light of the UFO experience, to explain this human condition. Many are very literal-minded statements that we have in us the blood of a cosmic race: Adam was born of the animal and the UFO occupant. Some make it a double election; some humans are really cosmic, others earthly. Our space brothers, Guardians and Shepherds of their kin toiling here below, have kept in touch and have tried to prepare us for final realization of our splendid origin and destiny: Elijah's chariot, Ezekiel's wheels, Jesus' ascension. Now they are coming back. The Biblical drama of God's reaching to man through crisis and the moments of ecstasy becomes read in light of what is for certain people today the central symbol of ultimate transcendence: the UFO with its mysterious origin and its marvelous freedom in the Universe.

These books may be pitiful stumbling efforts in the morasses of technical and historical scholarship, and rather too much *tours de force* for pet ideas. But as religion they are worthy of respect as picture-language wrestlings with the deep matters all persons face — or evade — in the stillness of the heart. On this level their scientific and historical failings may not matter so much. In what pertains to the ultimate beyond the circles of science and history, all language is picture-language only shadowing what is beyond words. It is, in the old Zen phrase, the finger pointing at the moon.

April Flap in New Zealand

APRO member Roland N. Goldsmith forwarded a report on sightings in his

country in early 1971, which included a couple of outstanding ones. Mr. Goldsmith observed that when activity is noticeable in the Western Hemisphere there is none in Australia or New Zealand, and vice versa. He also points out that the April activity was preceded and followed by volcanic activity. The cases:

On April 15 at approximately 9:00 p.m. Roger Morel and Robin Duncan Hay of Taupo, New Zealand, were returning home from forestry duties. They had noted earlier that their pig dog seemed agitated, even terrified. They left it behind and traveled to the main road where Mr. Morel stopped to check the tail light of the car. He glanced back in the direction from which they had come, then called to Mr. Hay to look at "an amazing sight."

Hovering above their camp site, almost directly south was an object shaped like an inverted cone or Coolie hat. The sharp end of the cone was uppermost and marked by dullish green lights. The base, about the length of a Friendship airliner across, was flickering with orange and yellow lights as if it was revolving. A band of yellow lights was arranged horizontally on the object half way between the base and the top. The body of the object was a hazy green color with a metallic sheen.

The weather was calm and clear with broken clouds and no noise was heard. No protuberance was noted, possibly due to the darkness and distance. The object was stationed at the 10 o'clock position in the sky. The pair watched the object for about 10 minutes with the car engine turned off, and then drove on to Taupo.

The object followed the car slowly, keeping about the same distance from them as when first viewed. It was lost to sight by the landscape and was not seen again.

A second sighting of a similar object was made on April 18 by Mr. J. C. Hall who with his wife was watching television at their home in Taupo. Mr. Hall's attention was caught by a bright star seen through a glass door looking directly north from the drawing room. It appeared to get larger and, after calling his wife, Mr. Hall focussed his binoculars on the object, which had the apparent size of the full moon.

The object in this case was at 10 o'clock position in the sky, and Hall estimated its distance to be about 10 miles. It was stationary but the bottom seemed to be revolving, and it had a greenish tinge.

Other sightings took place in the same general area, but we have presented these two which are quite detailed and in which more than one witness was involved.

Green Object in Oregon

A music teacher and his wife and six small children and a boarder were witnesses to an unusual object at Medford, Oregon at 12:30 a.m. on September 6, 1971.

At that time, the whole family and the boarder were awakened from sleep by loud "electronic-type sounds" which seemed to come from above the roof of their residence. They got up and searched each room, checking the television and radio to make sure they were not responsible for the noise. They also checked the pumps, water pipes, etc.

The sound was elusive, they said, — "you could turn your head at a tilt and couldn't really figure out where this was coming from." The group finally went outside to check and saw a green "ball" brightly shining above the oak tree in the pasture not 40 feet from the house. They called the police and an officer came and was able to see the object which had apparently begun to move east while they were inside making the call.

The sound that was heard was "as a ham radio being tuned in — the pitch rising and falling — now constant — now spiraling — now silent — now rising, etc. It was loud, very audible — enough to waken and alarm at the strangeness of the sound."

All of the witnesses mentioned that they were cautious though curious. The lady of the house said that the possible attraction for the object might have been the orangish reflection on the front of the house from a brooder light which lights up the house at night. The couple incubate and breed birds.

Our thanks to Field Investigator Carroll D. Watson for this report.

UFO Theories Plentiful

During the past few years, APRO has been receiving a number of "theories" on UFO origin, construction, propulsion, and other related matters. Such reports have been received from members and non-members alike, and have been tabulated as follows:

Propulsion theories	—	34
General theories	—	25
Mystical theories	—	1
		60

The general theories discuss varied topics, such as extraterrestrial life, intelligence and motivation, as well as UFO patterns. Propulsion systems usually involve advanced methods yet undeveloped by man; "electro-magnetic propulsion" and "anti-gravity forces" are two of the most popular terms utilized as the basis of these theories, which often are accompanied by intricate diagrams and charts. Some of the propulsion theories have been well written by knowledgeable persons; others have been written by those obviously lacking in technical

(See Theories—Page Seven)

Theories

(Continued from Page Six)

training.

The UFO propulsion theories have been examined by APRO's Consultant in Electrical Engineering, Dr. Kenneth Hessel, who has found no concept unknown to him on the basis of which a new, advanced propulsion system could be designed.

Four Discs in Illinois

Member Warren Davis forwarded the following details about a sighting made by his brother and his wife at Jacksonville, Illinois at 8:15 p.m. on October 5.

The couple and their two children were driving east on Morton Avenue in Jacksonville when they spotted some "things" against the full moon which had just risen. They first thought the objects were clouds but then realized that clouds could not be of such uniform shape and size. The objects were silvery semi-circles and appeared to be hovering. The family turned a corner and when they looked again two of the objects were gone. A couple of minutes later they drove by some tall trees which obscured the object and when the moon was visible again the two remaining objects were gone. They estimated the objects were in sight for about three minutes.

The foregoing incident took place on the same night that UFOs were reported in the Springfield, Illinois area. The latter sighting is under investigation.

Another Mexican UFO

Reports reaching APRO in October indicated that a "strange luminous object" was observed for 15 minutes by officials and tower control operators at La Manga Airport, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Reports say that the crew and passengers of a *Mexicana* airliner flying in the vicinity also saw the phenomenon.

Alfonso Molina Elias, chief of the control tower, informed the news media that the object remained stationary in the sky about 15 miles north-east of the airport, and at about 3,500 feet altitude. Mr. Molina described a bright light, like "a huge searchlight" which became progressively dimmer until it disappeared. Further details are being sought through Mr. Roberto Martin, APRO's Representative in Mexico.

Junior UFO Book

Investigating UFOs is the title of a new, junior book by Larry Kettelkamp, published by William Morrow and Co., Inc., 105 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

The book offers nothing new to the

average UFO reader but APRO recommends it as an introduction to the UFO field, particularly for youngsters. Various chapters are entitled: "UFOs under Study", "Sightings and Cases", "Saucer Occupants", "Illusions, Pranks and Hoaxes", and "Breaking the Space Barrier." The price of the book is \$3.75 (hard-cover) and it can be ordered from the address above.

Large Object Over Colorado

On a tip from member Gene Thrune of Washington, Dr. John Derr interviewed two witnesses to the overflight of a large, lighted object which passed over Littleton, Colorado at about 10:30 p.m. on August 21, 1971. Dr. Derr's findings follow:

Gray Keinsley a college student in his early 20s and his mother, moved out onto the patio for a "breath of air". Gray, who had been injured in an automobile accident is confined to a wheel-chair and had just been positioned on the patio facing west. His mother, standing behind him, was facing east. Gray was the first to see the object coming out of the west, directly over the house and moving fast in a southwesterly direction. Mrs. Keinsley turned quickly to see the object while overhead. At first, neither could give any shape to the object and thought that the peripheral ring of lights were the reflected shapes of geese. It was quickly apparent to both that the lights, which were dim and off-white in color, were much too evenly spaced around the leading edge of the object to be random flying geese. As they turned to observe what was apparently an object, both witnesses were able to define the contours of the leading half of the apparent craft but somehow could not make out the aft portion and apparently there were no lights around the edge past midships. As the object continued on an apparent high altitude direct southwest heading, it blotted out the planet Mars briefly, then shortly after abruptly disappeared.

The shape of the object was determined by the contour of the lights, which were grayish-white in color, and square in shape, not by a visible, definitive shape of the object. If the object had the same shape on the aft end past the midship portion they assumed they saw, the object would have been longer by again one-half the diameter. It could also have been a crescent as nothing could be seen past the mid-ship location.

The witnesses were unable to give an estimate of height or size. The closest approximation to apparent size was: compared to full moon, it was ten times the length of a full moon but would extend over on the sides.

Another sighting was made by other parties on the same night at 11:30 p.m. in

the same general area. The descriptions do not match that of the Keinsley sighting. The details of the latter will be presented when available.

Renewals

and Address Changes

APRO urges all members to renew promptly upon receipt of their renewal forms. Some members delay in renewing for several weeks (or even months) and this involves extra work for the APRO staff. Although late renewals are sent their missing *Bulletins*, both members and APRO staff would benefit if renewals were made at the appropriate time. Those wishing to renew in advance or to renew for 2 or more years are still welcome to do so.

Some members continue to change address without notifying APRO; their *Bulletins* are often returned as the Post Office has no record of the new address. Please inform APRO of address changes immediately and provide both old *and* new Zip Codes. APRO's membership and renewal system is based on each member's Zip Code; processing is held up if a member does not provide this data.

All the above also applies to subscribers to *The APRO Bulletin*.

Possible Landing

In Minnesota

Field Investigator Michael Stone has submitted the following information concerning the strange ground markings on the farm of Arnold Windschitl of Stewart, Minn.:

At 12:30 a.m. (CDT) on the morning of June 25, 1971, members of the Windschitl family were awakened by the sound of a sudden, strong gust of wind. Mrs. Windschitl noticed that a small electric night light in the house went out at the same time but came back on a couple of seconds later. Mr. Windschitl, thinking a heavy storm was beginning, rushed outside to check the weather but found that the sky was cloudless and there was no wind or lightning. Their ducks, however, were "wild", and the electric yard light had gone out.

The yard light is actuated by a photo-sensor; it extinguishes when the ambient light exceeds a certain value and turns on, after a few minutes' delay, when it becomes dark. Mr. Winschitl theorized that a bright flash had accompanied the wind and extinguished the light. After a couple of minutes the yard light came back on and the ducks quieted down. They could find nothing else wrong so the family retired again for the night.

An older son was returning home from Stewart on his motorcycle at the time of (See Landing-Page Eight)

Back Bulletins Available

APRO has a stock of back bulletins which are available to members and subscribers at 50¢ each, postpaid, as per the following list:

- 1958 — Jul., Nov.
- 1959 — Mar., Jul.
- 1960 — Mar., Jul., Sep., Nov.
- 1961 — Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sep., Nov.
- 1962 — Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sep., Nov.
- 1963 — Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sep., Nov.
- 1964 — Jan., March.
- 1967 — Nov.-Dec.
- 1968 — Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr., May-Jun., Jul.-Aug., Sep.-Oct., Nov.-Dec.
- 1969 — Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr., May-Jun., Jul.-Aug., Sep.-Oct., Nov.-Dec.
- 1970 — May-Jun., Nov.-Dec.
- 1971 — Jan.-Feb., Mar.-Apr., May-Jun. Jul.-Aug.

When ordering, be sure to indicate exactly which bulletins are required. Send remittance for the correct amount and print name and address clearly.

BULLETIN RATES

APRO Membership including Bulletin:

U.S., Canada & Mexico . \$5.00 yr.

All other countries . . . \$6.00 yr.

Subscription to Bulletin only:

U.S., Canada & Mexico . \$5.00 yr.

All other countries . . . \$6.00 yr.

UFO Photos

APRO has a collection of UFO photographs for sale to members and subscribers. The prints, 3"x5" and black and white, are sold in sets of 5 photos each for \$2.00 a set (individual prints will cost 50 cents). Below is a listing of the photos available:

- Set 1:
 - 1-5 — Barra da Tijuca, Brazil, 5/6/'52.
- Set 2:
 - 1-5 — Trindade Isl., Brazil, 1/16/'58.
- Set 3:
 - 1-4 — Itapoan, Brazil, 4/24/'59.
 - 5 — Santos, Brazil, 9/'55.
- Set 4:
 - 1-4 — Yungay, Peru, 3/'67.
 - 5 — Madre de Dios, Peru, '52.
- Set 5:
 - 1-4 — Santa Ana, Calif., 8/3/'65.
 - 5 — Las Cruces, N.M., 3/12/'67.
- Set 6:
 - 1-2 — McMinnville, Ore., 5/11/'50.
 - 3 — Gibbon, Minn., 10/21/'65.
 - 4 — White Sands, N.M., 10/16/'57.
 - 5 — Apacheland, Ariz., 3/27/'68.

Set 7:

- 1 — Mexico, 8/'65.
- 2 — Venezuela, '63.
- 3 — Guarico, Venezuela, 2/13/'66.
- 4 — Melbourne, Aus. 4/2/'66.
- 5 — Flippin, Ark., 7/16/'69.

APRO does not guarantee that all and every one of these photos depict a real UFO. APRO simply provides the photos and individuals may form their own opinions; they represent some of the best photographic evidence of alleged UFOs in existence.

When ordering, please include checks payable to APRO and indicate which sets and numbers are required. Print name and address clearly.

Landing

(Continued from Page Seven)

the incident and saw what appeared to be the flash of a meteor in the direction of the farm.

The next morning Mr. Windschitl was cultivating a corn field a few hundred yards east of their farmhouse when he noticed that a portion of his field was flattened and scorched. The area affected was circular and about 25 feet in diameter. The corn was bent over about one inch from the ground with the stalks all pointing radially out from the center. In the center of the circle was a circular dish-shaped depression approximately two feet in diameter and six to eight inches deep in the center. Inside the depression, near the edge, were five or six small holes, approximately three-fourths inch in diameter and 2½ inches deep.

A day or two later the family was weeding a bean field about a quarter of a mile south of the corn field when they discovered a similar burned and flattened area. They estimated the diameter of the circle to be 25 feet, as in the corn field, but there was no evidence of the dish-shaped depression in the center. Mr. Winschitl thought that the two areas could have been damaged at the same time.

APRO learned of the incident five weeks after it had occurred and Mr. Stone interviewed the Windschitl family on Sunday, August 1. Heavy rains had occurred in the meantime and the corn was over six feet tall by then, so it was difficult to find the damaged area in the corn field. The dish-shaped depression had been almost completely obliterated by the rain and over half of the corn in the damaged area had recovered and appeared to be as big and healthy as the corn in the rest of the field. Mr. Stone found only one damaged stalk. Tony and Paul Winschitl and Mr. and Mrs. Stone tried to find the damaged area in the bean field but were unsuccessful; apparently the beans had managed to recover virtually completely.

After the interview Mr. Stone showed Mr. Windschitl an article in the July-August 1969 APRO Bulletin describing a similar occurrence in an Iowa bean field. Mr. Windschitl said that if an aerial photograph of his bean field had been taken at the time the damage was discovered, it would have appeared the same as in the photograph accompanying the article. He estimated the diameter of the circle in the photograph to be about 25 feet, assuming a 44-inch spacing between rows, making it about the same size as the burned areas in his fields.

Oval Object Over Illinois

Amateur astronomer Warren Davis of Jacksonville, Illinois, reports that on June 1 of this year he and two friends observed a strange object near that city. His report follows:

"I was standing in the doorway observing the passage of a helicopter and as it passed out of view, my attention was caught by a bright light in the southern sky. It was flying straight north and at first I thought it was an artificial satellite. Then, as it came closer, I obtained a pair of 7x50 binoculars and determined that it was certainly not a satellite because it had a body. I don't believe it was an airplane either because it didn't appear to have wings or a tail assembly. It was oval-shaped, the front end being indistinct because of two or three very bright lights, white in color. The middle tapered to a sharp point at the end, making an oval shape. It didn't display position lights or a rotating beacon, just the lights in front which could also be observed from the side. It was at 9 p.m. and the sky was still fairly bright so it wasn't difficult to observe the object. It was at least a mile west of our position, flying at a speed of at least three hundred miles per hour. Altitude was at least 3000 feet.

"To the naked eye it looked like a satellite but it was distinct but very small. I don't have any idea of its size.

"I am an amateur astronomer and I am familiar with most aircraft and their lighting systems so I feel that I can distinguish between ordinary objects and objects of an unusual nature." Unquote.

Two Reports from Colombia

The following two cases have been forwarded by APRO Field Investigator Jorge Enrique Parra O., of Columbia, S.A.

Farmer Antonio Jose Galarcio and his son, who reside in Cordoba State, reported seeing a cigar-shaped object surrounded by an orangish light which

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Colombia

(Continued from Page Eight)

hovered over their house shortly before midnight on December 4, 1970. Although the object stayed in one position for about half an hour they did not alert neighbors, being too entranced with the appearance of the thing.

When the object left the vicinity it gave off a vapor trail and made a sound which they compared to that of a pressure cooker (high pitched whistling). Later inquiry indicated that several residents of the area had observed the object also.

Case number two involves two high school students. Eduardo Ponce Melo and Jairo Castro, both in the 11th grade, were talking in the hills near La Calera, Colombia, when they saw what they at first thought was a bird. When they realized it was in fact a strange type of flying object, Eduardo aimed his camera and started taking pictures. He managed to get three shots in about six seconds, using color film.

The object presented the appearance of a flat cone with a red dome at the top somewhat like the red light on a police car. They estimated its closest approach was about 500 meters (1600 feet). It was pursuing an east to west flight path with a zig-zag course. They estimated the object's diameter as about 5 meters (16 feet). Mr. Parra is attempting to obtain the photos for APRO.

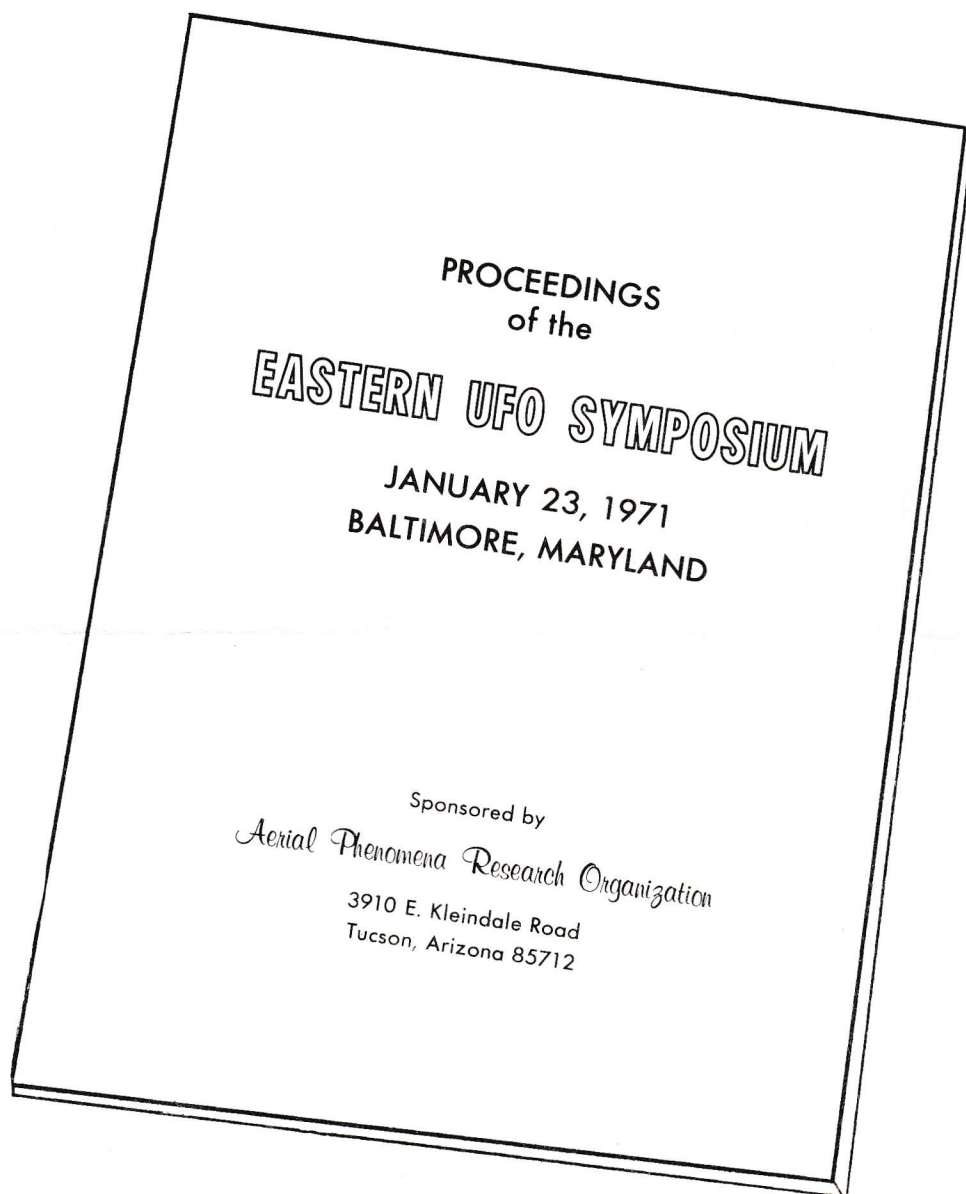
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Objects Seen in Louisiana

Several people at New Iberia, Louisiana reported to APRO member Barbara Branscum that a large object, which appeared about the size of the moon, was seen there at about 8 p.m. on January 26th of this year. The two major witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. Viator who are familiar with several types of planes. It was a fairly clear night, a little windy, temperature approximately 60-65 degrees. Mrs. Viator, who was outside, spotted the object first, then called others out to view it. It was located near the constellation Ursa Major and stayed in that position from ten to 20 minutes, whereupon it suddenly flew across the sky, then straight down and out of sight. Witnesses described it as a circular arrangement of red and gold or blue and gold flashing lights. No sound was heard at any time and most witnesses expressed their excitement at viewing such an odd object.

* * * * *

Now Available



See Page 2 For Details